

CONDOLENCE REFERENCE.

Demise of Sri C. Narasimhiah.

Mr. SPEAKER.—I regret to have to inform the House that I have received intimation of the demise of Sri C. Narasimhiah, B.A., B.L. He was for a number of years a Member of the Mysore Legislature. He was for sometime the President of the Mysore Bar Association and a member of the District Board and the Mysore City Municipal Council. He was a leading figure in public affairs of the State. I desire on behalf of the House to express our sense of the loss sustained by his demise and to express on behalf of you all our sympathy with the relatives of the deceased.

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Business of the House.

Sri K. HANUMANTHAIYA (Leader of the House).—Sir, yesterday the Leader of the Opposition wanted to know what the business of the House would be for the remaining days. Sir, I find that with your consent the List has already been prepared and Government is in agreement with that List. So far as the duration of the sittings is concerned, we have programmed to sit till 23rd and that may stand.

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MYSORE HOUSING BOARD BILL, 1954.

Motion to consider.

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Minister for Law and Education).—Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Mysore Housing Board Bill, 1954, as reported by the Joint Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, since the advent of freedom, our country has been witnessing the process of converting a Police State into a Welfare State. Large features have been outlined in our Constitution and during these five years, since the

Constitution was accepted in 1950, measures for the protection of the country, measures for supplying the physical needs of the country and also measures for improving the standard of life of the people have been put before the public. In particular, we have been witnessing how measures for adequate food, decent clothing, proper shelter are being put forward in the Legislature. In Mysore, Sir, regarding the provision of adequate number of houses of a proper nature, Government passed in 1949 a Labour Housing Corporation Act. In 1952, Government took up the question of implementing that Act. Since 1952, the Housing Corporation has spent in 1953-54—Rs. 11,60,000; in 1954-55, up-to-date, for this short period, Rs. 19,69,000. While working we found, Sir, that the Labour Housing Corporation Act had very circumscribed scope. It applied only to industrial labour, thus leaving out of account a large number of non-industrial labour living in rural parts. Further, it did not take into consideration other employees like Government servants or people engaged in commerce, etc. In order to widen the scope and to make full use of the facilities, this Bill had been brought up before the House. It elicited keen discussion in both the Houses of the Legislature and in order to bring forward a measure which would be acceptable to all the members, it was referred to a Joint Select Committee consisting of 18 members, probably the biggest Select Committee that has ever been proposed before by this Legislature. It sat eight times, probably the largest number of sittings that any Committee had. All the views and criticisms that were expressed in the Legislature were taken into consideration and necessary amendments have been proposed as could be seen from the Bill that is placed in the hands of the Hon'ble Members. Sir, I shall only refer to important features which mark this Bill.

Sir, there were several suggestions regarding the enlargement of the Board, but it was finally felt that that would be a matter to be considered by Government and that Government should keep